

quorum. The Commission may delegate to any commissioner the authority to conduct any proceeding within its jurisdiction, and to any personnel of the Commission which it deems qualified the authority to act as a hearing examiner and to submit findings and recommendations to the Commission. No decision in any matter in which authority has been delegated under this section shall be effective until made or confirmed, and ordered filed, by the Commission in its principal office.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 2(1), 6, 7, 12, 14, 15B, 25, 28(c), 56, 62, 77, 82, 85(a), 86, and 101(b) of Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) be and they are hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law

2.

(1) "Personnel of the Commission" includes commissioners, [people's counsel,] general counsel, officers and employees of the Commission.

(JJ) "FAMILY" IN THE CASE OF COMMISSIONERS, THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL, THE GENERAL COUNSEL AND HEARING EXAMINERS MEANS SPOUSE, DEPENDENT CHILD, PARENT, BROTHER OR SISTER AND IN THE CASE OF OTHER PERSONNEL OF THE COMMISSION AND OF THE OFFICE OF THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL MEANS SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD.

(KK) "RELATIVE" MEANS ANY PERSON RELATED BY BLOOD OR MARRIAGE.

6.

(A) The term of each commissioner shall be six years from the expiration of his predecessor's term. A commissioner, INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN, shall continue in office after his term expires until his successor has qualified, but without lengthening his successor's term. Vacancies shall be filled by the Governor for [the] ANY unexpired term IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 5.

(B) THE TERMS OF EACH COMMISSIONER APPOINTED HEREUNDER SHALL COMMENCE ON JULY 1, 1976. WITH RESPECT TO THE INITIAL APPOINTMENTS ONLY, THE TERM OF ONE COMMISSIONER (WHO SHALL BE FULLTIME) SHALL EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 1978, THE TERM OF THE SECOND COMMISSIONER SHALL EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 1979, THE TERM OF THE THIRD COMMISSIONER (WHO SHALL BE FULLTIME) SHALL EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 1980, THE TERM OF THE FOURTH COMMISSIONER SHALL EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 1981, AND THE TERM OF THE CHAIRMAN (WHO SHALL BE FULLTIME) SHALL EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 1982.